



# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT HELPS ENSURE QUALITY WATER FOR PRIMROSE

**Primrose, Neb., September 12, 2005**—Ribbon was cut today to celebrate the completion of the near \$506,000 water improvement project for the Village of Primrose. Improvements will help provide safe and reliable water services for the 69 rural residents of the community. USDA Rural Development presented a \$367,600 symbolic check to the Village, representative of the USDA monies that were leveraged with \$138,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the project.

“A town such as ours could not have afforded a project of this size on our own. Representing the Village of Primrose, I would like to express our appreciation for USDA Rural Development’s willingness to help a small community such as Primrose,” stated Dan Walrath, chairperson for Village of Primrose.

Primrose’s existing water system dates back to 1924, and is reaching the end of its useful life. One well constructed in 1978 and renovated in 2000 has acceptable water quantity and quality with the second well, used only for emergencies, deemed unreliable with water quality that is suspect. One-third of the water mains have been replaced over the past 30 years, balance were installed in 1924. Additionally, system is not metered. Existing original 35,000 gallon elevated storage tank is out of compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards. Tank’s height prohibits meeting minimum pressure requirements to serve those residents in the northern part of the community and creates a potential for contamination due to negative water pressures.

Water improvements completed include purchase and installation of a hydro-pneumatic water tank, development of new 200 gpm well, installation of water meters, mains, service lines, valves, hydrants, controls and associated hardware.

“A reliable supply of quality water is essential to a community’s well-being,” stated Jolene Kasper, community programs specialist for USDA Rural Development. “USDA Rural Development is pleased to assist Primrose with their water needs, providing for a healthier and safer tomorrow.”

USDA Rural Development’s water loan of \$77,600 will be over 40 years at 4.50 percent rate of interest; \$290,000 grant completes the USDA funding. For additional information contact Jolene Kasper, phone (402) 371-5350, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); [jolene.kasper@ne.usda.gov](mailto:jolene.kasper@ne.usda.gov); 1909 Vicki Lane, Suite 103, Norfolk, Neb. 68701. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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